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The Kenyon Collegian

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Ben Nutter '21 becomes first student to serve on Village Council

RONAN ELLIOTT
NEWS EDITOR

For the first time in Gambier's history, a Kenyon student has been elected to Village Council. Ben Nutter '21 joined the council on Monday, Jan. 13 following a special election held immediately before the council's first meeting of the year. Leeman Kessler '04, who was elected mayor last November, had to vacate his seat on the council to step into his new position. This left an opening that could be filled by any qualified community member. While Kenyon students had run for the position before, none had ever been selected.

At the meeting, Nutter stood and announced his intention to run. He answered questions from the Council about his other commitments; his ability to attend during academic breaks; and his willingness to stay in Gambier a semester past graduation in order to complete his term. At each point, Nutter reaffirmed his willingness to serve effectively on Council.

Alison Furlong, a Gambier resident, had previously announced her intention to run, but she withdrew before the vote took place. Nutter ran unopposed and was elected

unanimously. He will serve on the council until new councilmembers are chosen in Dec. 2021.

Nutter admitted that he was surprised to have been elected. "I wasn't expecting to win," he said. "When they said another person was running, I was like, 'I'm not going to win.' And then [that person] receded."

Kessler believes that Nutter is qualified for the job. "I'm excited. I've been talking about how I think it's important to have as much student engagement in local government [as possible]," he said. "I have faith in Ben — I think he has the imagination, the wherewithal and the empathy to be engaged and to think long-term."

However, Kessler thinks it can be difficult for Kenyon students to engage with the broader community. He recalls his own time as a student, when he rarely left the confines of Middle Path. Much of being a councilmember is listening and responding to people's grievances, and in order to do that effectively, Kessler feels that people must be present in the Village.

"You kind of have to be around to know what folks are talking about. 'Oh, you're right, there should be a cross-



Ben Nutter is sworn into office on Village Council. Nutter will serve until Dec. 2021. | SARA HALEBLIAN

walk there! You're right, there should be a stop sign at this particular intersection!" Kessler said. "I think a big challenge for Ben now is to get off campus in the Village. The more keyed-in he can be, the more he can hear [residents'] perspectives, the better he'll be able to serve."

In addition to serving as one of the six councilmembers, Nutter will sit on the Village's Finance and In-

come Tax (Budget) Committee and the Police and Personnel Committee. While Nutter is nervous about the scope of his responsibilities, he is optimistic that his position on council will tighten the bond between Kenyon and the Village of Gambier. He hopes that having a student on the Council will make it easier for other Kenyon students to have their voices heard in local politics.

"A particular thing that I am focused on is renegotiating our contract with the Sheriff," Nutter said. "Just because of all of the emotionally impactful and differently treated situations that the sheriff has put students of color in. So that's a thing that I think is important to look at very very carefully, and to discuss with the various councilmembers in depth to see what our options are."



President Decatur introduces human rights activist Loretta Ross. | REID STAUTBERG

Dr. Loretta Ross delivers MLK Day keynote lecture

LEAH ANDERSON
STAFF WRITER

On Monday, Jan. 20, Kenyon celebrated the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a Day of Dialogue. The event aimed to encourage practical approaches to addressing racism and prejudice. Classes operated on a modified schedule to allow students and faculty to attend the event in Rosse Hall.

Following an opening performance by the Kenyon Chamber Singers, President Sean Decatur welcomed the auditorium full of students

and staff to the Day of Dialogue and introduced the keynote speaker, human rights activist Dr. Loretta Ross.

Ross, who currently teaches at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, has worked as an activist for more than 50 years. Though her work has focused primarily on women's and reproductive rights, Ross is a strong advocate for a fully inclusive and unified human rights movement. In her speech, titled "Calling In vs. Calling Out Will Build the Human Rights Movement," Ross presented ▶ page 2



SARA HALEBLIAN

On Friday, Jan. 17, four students — Jodi-Ann Wang '20, Paola Liendo '20, Scout Crowell '20 and Camila Wise '20 — organized a march on Middle Path in support of immigrant rights activist and Kenyon alumnus Marco Saavedra '11. Students and faculty walked together in silence from Old Kenyon to Bexley Hall, perhaps anticipating the somber mood of Saavedra's final asylum hearing, which is scheduled for early February.

College awarded \$150,000 grant to foster science writing

EVEY WEISBLAT
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

Fortifying its literary roots, Kenyon has embraced the proliferation of science writing programming in recent years, aiming to bridge the gap between the various disciplines of the liberal arts. These efforts culminated on Friday, when the College announced via a news bulletin that the Mellon Foundation has gifted it with a \$150,000 grant to support pre-existing programs and future initiatives in science writing.

"I received an invitation to apply to the Mellon Foundation for a grant to fund a program that was important for the College, and this program immediately came to mind," President Sean Decatur wrote in an email to the *Collegian*. "The Mellon grant will allow us to bring science writers to campus to offer classes for students, support student projects, and work with faculty in further developing the efforts currently underway."

The seeds for such an award were sown almost four years ago. In the spring of 2016, Professor of English Sergei Lobanov-Rostovsky and Professor of Biology Chris Gillen worked together to develop a team-taught course in science writing, effectively anticipating the surge in science writing programming that would come in future years. Lobanov-Rostovsky also curated a special edition of the *Kenyon Review* that fall, entitled "The Poetics of Science" and centered around science writing.

"This has been completely a grassroots effort, and a lot of people have been doing science writing — creative writing in science classes or creative writing about science in other parts of the College — for a whole bunch of years," Gillen said. "So I think what happened is there were a number of us around who were interested in doing this stuff, and we started to come together. What really formed the nucleus ...

was the formation of the science writing class."

Gillan and Lobanov-Rostovsky taught the first iteration of Science Writing (ENGL 404.00) in the spring of 2017 and again the following spring; the course has since been team-taught by Professor of English David Lynn '76 P'14 and Professor of Biology Robert Mauk. Other science writing initiatives have followed alongside the course: In the summer of 2018, the Kenyon Review added to their regiment of summer programs a Young Science Writers Workshop for high school students. Meanwhile, students proved just as interested in interdisciplinary learning with the formation of Lyceum, the first science writing student literary journal, in the fall of 2018.

From his experience of team-teaching the science writing course and reading student work in Lyceum, Gillen is convinced that students have played — and will con-

tinue to play — a central role in making science writing a cornerstone of Kenyon's interdisciplinary approach to pedagogy.

"We couldn't do science writing ... without the amazing students we have here at Kenyon," Gillen said. "I think about the science writing class where we asked science students to walk over to Lentz and sit in a writing workshop [and] read their work aloud — that's hard. And, in the meantime, we're asking the English majors to become knowledgeable enough about an area in science that they could write about it with authority and creativity."

According to the Jan. 17 news bulletin, the Mellon Foundation money will be matched with Kenyon funds to provide further interdisciplinary writing opportunities, including a humanities-based science writing curriculum. With these funds, the College plans to develop new science writing classes, coordinate regular workshops and

meetings and bring renowned science writers to campus. In addition, they will sponsor recent graduates in science writing to come to Kenyon and teach science writing as visiting professors.

For Gillen, science writing is about more than just training students for future careers in science journalism or writing "the popular book on science that a lot of people read." While these are certainly important, he suggests that science writing can do more than that — it can inspire us to explore the limitations of genre and reexamine our own disciplines by viewing them through a new lens.

"I think there's something more to how we envision science writing here at Kenyon," Gillen said. "It can be a way to probe into deep issues about what it is to be human. By exploring questions in science, we can get at some of the same kinds of questions about humanity or how we live on this planet."

MLK Day keynote speaker preaches radical love in activism

Continued from Page 1

a vision of a universal fight against injustice. Ross stressed the importance of intersectional activism and finding common ground between dissenting parties.

Lara O'Callaghan '23 found Ross's personal account of her efforts to work with her conservative parents, despite their generational and political differences, compelling. "I really liked her idea of ... finding common ground with people who don't share your beliefs," she said. "Even if they're in an older generation or younger generation."

In her address, Ross explained the difference between "calling out" and "calling in," a concept that is the basis for her current book in progress. Ross described "calling out" and "calling in" as two ways of holding people accountable for problematic behavior with dramatically different intentions and results.

"A 'call-out' is publicly shaming somebody for what they do, think, or are," Ross said in her speech. "A 'calling-in' is offering feedback or correction for the same things to achieve accountability—but you do so privately without embarrassing or shaming the person."

On the morning of the Day of Dialogue, Kenyon co-sponsored the 17th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Breakfast alongside Mount Ver-

non Nazarene University (MVNU) and the MLK Legacy Committee. Jonathan Tazewell '84, Thomas S. Turgeon Professor of Drama, spoke at the breakfast, which was hosted on MVNU's campus from 9-11 a.m. The on-campus Day of Dialogue event, sponsored by the Office of the President, the Office of the Provost and the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, ran from 3-7 p.m.

After Ross' address and a closing performance by the Chamber Singers, students and faculty were invited to attend either of the two breakout sessions meant to further the discussion of Ross' talk. One group, moderated by Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Ted Mason, Associate Professor of Political Science H. Abbie Erler and Senior Advisor for Community Relations Jan Thomas, focused on intersectional allyship and solidarity between social justice movements. The second group, moderated by Chaplains Marc Bragin and Rachel Kessler '04, focused on human charity's relationship with the human rights movement. In their session, Bragin and Kessler held a discussion on how addressing problematic behavior is, as Ross described, not an insult, but rather "an expression of radical love."

"In a small community such as Kenyon, we should look out for each other," Bragin said. "We should call out and call in when we think it's going to make the person a better person and make this community a better community."

Bell becomes assistant director of Campus Safety

JOE GOLDSTEIN
STAFF WRITER

After 19 years of patrolling Kenyon during the night, Todd Bell is taking up the job of assistant director of Campus Safety. Bell, who served as midnight shift coordinator, takes on many of the responsibilities previously fulfilled by Holly Blead.

Blead, who worked at Campus Safety for roughly two and a half years, is joining the Public Safety department at Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pennsylvania as the school's director of Public Safety. Over email, Blead told the *Collegian* that she chose the job in Lycoming in order to live closer to her family in Pennsylvania.

One of Blead's foremost tasks at Campus Safety involved improving Kenyon's reporting of Clery Act crime statistics. Blead, along with Civil Rights and Title IX Coordinator Samantha Hughes, compiled the annual report, which details crimes committed on campus, the College's policies regarding these crimes and Campus Safety protocol. Apart from her Clery duties, Blead worked with James Jackson, director of Student Rights and Responsibilities, on pending investiga-

tions involving Campus Safety.

As Bell takes over for Blead, he wants to focus on "maintaining what Holly accomplished during her time at Kenyon," specifically regarding her work on reporting Clery Crimes.

Bell's responsibilities as assistant director of Campus Safety will differ significantly from those of his old position. Working through the night, Bell grew accustomed to interacting with only a small portion of Kenyon. "I talked to a lot of students who were late-night studiers and a lot of students who were out and about at night," he said. Although Bell has to adjust to a job he describes as more administrative, he now has the opportunity to meet more students and faculty face to face.

Apart from these new professional duties, Bell's job brings many changes to his personal life as well. Bell's shift as a night worker lasted from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Now that he works mostly during daytime, he has more time to spend with his family.

"I am happy and excited to start this position," said Bell. "It is allowing me to grow and interact with more of the community."

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Mark Kohlman leaves Kenyon to join Peace Corps in Africa

LINNEA MUMMA
NEWS ASSISTANT

As the new semester begins, a variety of structural and staffing changes are taking place on Kenyon's campus. Of particular importance, Ian Smith will replace Mark Kohlman. As Chief Business Officer of the College, Kohlman has served Kenyon for the last 11 years, dedicating countless hours to bettering the Gambier community. Feb. 21, 2020 will be his last day at Kenyon.

In March, Kohlman will return to the Peace Corps, where he will serve as director of management and operations and oversee projects in Benin, Africa.

This will not be his first time in Benin. After graduating from Purdue University in 1991, Kohlman worked as a volunteer for the Peace Corps in Benin for two years. Because of this, he remarked that returning to Africa is "the best case scenario" for him.

"The chances of that happening, and the cycle of people coming and going, and that being an open position — it couldn't have been better," said Kohlman.

Since 2008, Kohlman has overseen a variety of projects at Kenyon: he managed the construction of Gund Gallery, Horvitz Hall and the North Campus Apartments, renovated College properties in Gambier and Mount Vernon such as the Bookstore and the Kenyon Inn, and began the development of the West Quad. Through these projects, Kohlman has demon-

strated that construction work should be given the respect it deserves. "Behind the scenes, there is so much that goes into it," he said.

Although Kohlman will not be present for the completion of the West Quad, he promises to remain updated on the progress. "Whenever I get internet, I'll watch on the webcam," he said.

Kohlman's absence will be felt by all on Kenyon's campus. "It's an extraordinary opportunity for Mark, but we will miss his steady hand here at Kenyon," President Sean Decatur said in a news bulletin sent on Dec. 13. "I have valued his initiative and perspective, and I am grateful for his careful stewardship of one of Kenyon's greatest assets — our historic campus."

In addition, Kohlman has worked to improve sustainability on campus, establishing the Office of Green Initiatives and working to install solar panels on buildings across campus. Solar panels are due for installation on Gund Commons in April. "[These panels] will be a 62-kilowatt system, which will put us over the 100-kilowatt total campus-wide," said Kohlman. "This is monumental for us in terms of our effort so far." Both Decatur and Kohlman are looking forward to the sustainability work that Smith will take on during his time at Kenyon.

"When Mark Kohlman shared his plans to move on from Kenyon, we saw an opportunity to integrate campus planning and environmental sustain-

ability at the senior leadership level," Decatur said. "Ian [Smith] brings the mix of expertise, experience and leadership needed to make progress on our carbon commitment."

In his time at Earlham College, Smith helped develop the College's 2015 master plan. He also managed a \$70-million-dollar construction program, which included four LEED certified projects. Finally, as he finishes at Earlham, he is implementing a solar power project that will meet 80 percent of the college's energy needs.

At Kenyon, Smith will be in charge of campus planning and maintenance, while auxiliary functions that are currently handled by Kohlman will be directed to and managed by Vice President for Finance Todd Burson.

Additionally, after Steve Arnett left in the fall due to personal reasons, the administration had been seeking a new candidate for director of facility operations. Rebecca Lanter, director of operations and maintenance at Northern Kentucky University, will replace Steve Arnett on Feb. 17, 2020.

Kohlman is grateful for the 11 years he has spent at Kenyon. He and his wife, Professor of Sociology Marla Kohlman, first moved to Gambier over 20 years ago. He fondly remembers working as a cashier at the Bookstore in the early years, before moving onto logistical work at Knox County Headstart. From there he became the director of business operations for the Knox County Board of Developmental Disabilities, and eventually received his position at Kenyon in



After 11 years, Kohlman leaves Kenyon. | COURTESY OF MARK KOHLMAN

2008, after receiving a Masters degree in organizational management from Mount Vernon Nazarene University.

"My time at Kenyon has been a tremendous period of growth for me professionally," said Kohlman. "I have worked with outstanding colleagues at every level and am proud of the things that have been achieved over the past decade. The most fulfilling part of my time here has been the many opportunities I have had to work with students on a multitude of projects."

As he moves on from his work at Kenyon, Kohlman encourages students to continue to use their voices and get involved in the work that is happening on campus. "Go to the right people for information," he said. "You'll see, if you get involved, things will change, and develop, and adapt."

Social Board to be folded into Office of Student Engagement

Administrators hope that the change will improve logistics, allow hosting of more events.

TOMMY JOHNSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Social Board, best known for planning Summer Send-off and bingo nights, is looking to expand its repertoire of events next semester with more regular programming that makes better use of its funding.

By transitioning to a departmental organization under the umbrella of the Office of Student Engagement (OSE), Social Board will receive more logistical assistance, advisory support from an OSE employee and a regularized stream of funding that means Social Board does not have to constantly approach Student Council's Business and Finance Committee (BFC). Director of Student Engagement Sam Filkins and Social Board Co-president Patrick Nally '21 are both optimistic about the organization's new status.

"I'm really excited that we have an entire semester of programs planned," Filkins said. He expects that this will improve not only the quantity of programs but also their quality.

As of the spring 2019 se-

mester, Social Board's status has fallen somewhere between that of a departmental organization and a student organization. Departmental organizations receive both their advisors and their funding from the division of the college that sponsors them. Student organizations, on the other hand, request funding through the BFC, choose their own advisor and are largely independent from the OSE, with the exception of campus contribution policies and other basic requirements.

Last year, Social Board had features of both types of organizations. They received formal assistance from Ashley Rastetter, the former assistant director of student engagement, but they were officially a student organization, meaning they were technically able to choose their own advisor.

With Rastetter's departure, Social Board and the OSE decided to treat last semester as a trial run where Social Board would be a full-fledged student organization. Both Filkins and Nally believe that the lack of formal support

from the OSE kept the organization from putting on as many events and programs as it wanted, hence the switch this semester over to a departmental organization.

"Without an advisor [in the OSE], it was good, we had great ideas and everything, but the logistics of making these events happen, per se, was tougher," Nally said, referring to the complicated nature of ordering the many tickets and travel arrangements for programs like trips to Columbus sporting events.

Filkins, too, mentioned logistics. College students have less experience negotiating contracts, so having the "institutional memory" of the OSE will help streamline these processes. This institutional memory will also help with screening speakers and events in advance, since OSE employees have colleagues at other institutions who can shed insight into whether a speaker puts on a good show or is easy to work with.

Another part of the problem last semester was that Social Board was not able to think as far in advance or

as ambitiously as they will be able to now, according to Filkins.

"[Social Board] will have a guaranteed percentage of funding for each year so they can plan further in advance," Filkins said — a change from having to request it from the BFC. According to Filkins, it is often necessary to be able to know how much money is on hand before booking a comedian or a musical act. Already, Social Board has a full slate of events for the spring semester, varying in size and scope, and Filkins expects that there will be approximately one event per week. "By being an advisor, we have the opportunity to tell them to dream big," he said.

But logistical support is not the same as the OSE directing the organization. For instance, students will still be responsible for thinking of, planning and putting on the programming.

"Becoming departmental, I believe that it's gonna give the organization as a whole more help ... but it's still going to be student-run," Nally said. "We just want an extra hand

in helping make sure these events actually get put on."

Money is perhaps the biggest issue at hand. After all, the events Social Board puts on are paid for by students.

"One of the other things is just making sure that we are using good fiscal management," Filkins said. "So, Social Board this fall had a large amount of money left over... [now] we can make sure every student is getting the best bang for their buck with that student activity fee money."

Social Board is also meant to be a representative body whose events are intended to reflect the whole student population, according to Filkins. In addition to more regular programming and more effective spending, he also looks forward to Social Board crafting events for a more diverse audience.

For both Filkins and Nally, this upcoming semester provides an opportunity for Social Board, through more regular programming, to become known not just for a few large campus events, but to emerge as a regular feature of weekly social life on campus.

Dean of CDO leaves Kenyon to join neuroscience nonprofit

GRANT HOLT
STAFF WRITER

Holly McCormack, dean for career development, has accepted a position at BrainFutures—a national nonprofit dedicated to the advancement of neuroscience research in improving human learning. McCormack will serve as Chief Strategic Officer for the organization. Her last day at Kenyon College will be Jan. 28, 2020.

In the past two-and-a-half years, the Career Development Office (CDO) has seen an 80 percent increase in total programs offered, an increase in internship offerings by the Kenyon Community Internship Program from nine positions to 40 and the adoption of the career services platform Handshake.

“I’ve never met a community of people as committed to promoting the success of students as I have found here,” McCormack said. “Because of that, we’ve been able to do so much within a short period of time.”

The accomplishments made by the CDO during McCormack’s tenure leaves her confident that Kenyon will be a better place than when she arrived. McCormack credits the partners and team members that she has worked with over the past couple of years as the reason for such success.

Over the past year, McCormack juggled her time directing career devel-

opment at Kenyon and consulting for BrainFutures. In 2015, she wrote a report concerning brain-based executive function programs for children in grades K-12. The report was for the Kennedy Forum, an organization intent on setting a new standard in the way that health care providers treat mental health and substance use disorders. BrainFutures reached out to McCormack soon afterwards, asking if she would be interested in writing a second version of her report.

“They wanted to do a program guide to actually vet these K-12 executive function school-based programs,” McCormack said. “So for about four or five months last year, I was moonlighting doing that.”

As she worked on a second draft, McCormack reflected on how the supportive approaches applied by BrainFutures helped build resilience in people as individuals and optimized their capacity to learn.

BrainFutures reached out to McCormack after approving a position for a chief strategy officer.

“It’s really focused on helping to promote the uptake of neuroscience technologies as they help people in education, the workplace, and aging populations,” McCormack said. “[BrainFutures] figures out the barriers preventing the adoption of new technologies from being better used by the public—and then figuring



Following two-and-a-half years of service, Dean for Career Development Holly McCormack has accepted a position elsewhere. | COURTESY OF HOLLY MCCORMACK

out how to remove those barriers.”

The search for McCormack’s replacement is not yet underway, according to Provost Joseph Klesner, but it is expected to begin in the coming weeks. Associate Director of the CDO Lee Schott will serve as acting director until the College, working with an outside consultant, finds a candidate to replace McCormack. They expect to have a new director by July 1, 2020—the start of the College’s

fiscal year.

“Given our growth and what we’ve been able to do in that period of time, I think we are in a really good place, and it would be a good time for someone else to come in,” she said. “They have a strategic plan all set for them. They’ve got some good success in momentum that they would be walking into. I feel like, for the person coming into this role, it’s going to be a dream.”

Holly Baker joins Counseling Center as associate director

BEN BRUMLEY
STAFF WRITER

ARI BLUFFSTONE
STAFF WRITER

Holly Baker, the new associate director at the Cox Health and Counseling Center, began work this week. Baker was hired at the end of last semester following a lengthy process of review led by Director Chris Smith, which marked the first time the Center has been fully staffed this academic year.

Baker, a licensed clinical counselor who previously worked at the Mansfield office of Providers for Healthy Living, will act both as a leader of the Counseling Center and as a counselor taking student appointments. According to Smith, the first semester in such a role generally involves becoming acquainted with the environment of the College.

“I want her to use this semester to really understand Kenyon as a college and to understand our Health and Counseling Center,” Smith said. “Not just counseling services, but Health and Counseling, because there’s a lot that happens on the first floor that can positively impact students on the second floor.”

Though Smith emphasized that Baker’s first semester at Kenyon will be a period of transition and acclimation, he explained that her arrival will also have an immediate impact on the other counselors at the Health and Counseling Center and to whom they report.

“[During the hiring process] all of [the counselors] have been technically reporting to me” Smith said, “Now we have someone who is a counselor who can help them get

into some of the details that my purview as a public health person just won’t allow me, nor should I be involved in.”

Having both clinical and administrative duties at the Health and Counseling Center, Baker is currently working with a caseload of 20 students per week, 10 less than the 30 students seen weekly by full-time counselors. Smith noted that this would allow “10 hours of [Baker’s] week to be primarily dedicated to leading our team, to giving them the supervision they need to provide the greatest care possible for Kenyon students.”

Baker’s appointment comes at a tumultuous time for the Counseling Center and the climate of mental health on campus. For Smith, one of the goals of Baker’s appointment is to foster a greater connection between the Center and the rest of campus.

“One of the first things we did is have her start meeting with other campus partners,” Smith said “[She] met with [the Center for] Global Engagement, athletics and [the Office of] Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.”

Among the first challenges that the Center seeks to address under Baker’s guidance is ensuring that there are fewer missed appointments.

“In the months since Send Silence Packing, we had a no-show rate of 25 percent,” Smith said. “We literally had days where some of our counselors sat up here all day and didn’t see a single student, because none of their scheduled appointments showed up.”

Despite these challenges, Smith remains optimistic. He hopes that Baker’s addition to the Center’s staff will provide further opportunities for improvement of the health resources available on campus.

Strategic Plan outlines future developments for Gambier

RONAN ELLIOTT
NEWS EDITOR

Knox County is expanding. The county has a population of over 61,000, and experts estimate that by 2050, another 17,000 people — roughly the population of Mount Vernon — will have settled into the region. This increase in population presents both challenges and opportunities for the county, and officials are already searching for ways to build up the area’s infrastructure and economy.

For the past year, the Knox County Foundation — in conjunction with the Knox County Area Development Foundation and MS Consultants — has discussed, brainstormed and gathered feedback from communities in Knox County, all in an effort to establish a vision of the region’s future. Their final product is a series of Strategic Plans: one tailored to each village in Knox County. On Monday, Jan. 13, they presented the Gambier Village Strategic Plan at a Village Council meeting. The Village Council must now decide whether to adopt the plan, and what to do with it going forward.

The plan is essentially a list of steps that the Village can take in order to grow its economy and strengthen its community. These steps include methods of improving the zoning code, attracting small businesses and promoting regional tourism.

At the center of the plan is an economic investment: If the Council ratifies the plan, the Village will be granted \$40,000 in funding each year for the next four years. This money must be requested from the Knox County Foundation on a project-by-project basis, and can be spent on any endeavor outlined in the Strategic Plan. While the plan does not require the Village to undertake any of its projects, it will make these enterprises much easier to afford.

Mayor Leeman Kessler ’04 thinks that the

plan is a great opportunity. Many of the things it describes would benefit the Village, but would be very difficult without outside help. One of the projects outlined in the plan would connect the Kokosing Gap Trail with downtown Gambier, using a trellis bridge for bikers and pedestrians that would cross Ohio State Route 229. This undertaking would likely increase regional tourism, but would be prohibitively expensive without the funding the plan provides. To even consider the project, the Council would first have to hire an engineer to give a structural assessment of the area.

“You can justify that a lot more if you can say, ‘We can get our engineering assessment to be paid for out of this grant money,’” Kessler said. “Even if [the project] doesn’t go anywhere, we have not risked our own money exploring it.”

Other strategies in the plan include hosting more recreational events, amplifying the Village’s online presence and potentially merging with the College Township, which governs the surrounding area. Kessler suspects that some of the more ambitious proposals will not be attempted in the near future. He describes it as a “wish list,” rather than a binding course of action.

“They had a lot of thoughts about, how could you repurpose the elementary school?” Kessler said. “Well, that presupposes either getting rid of the elementary school, or building a new elementary school. Which is not immediately on the horizon.”

The Village Council has yet to approve the plan, but Kessler expects that they will when they vote on it in March. Overall he sees plenty of benefits to the funding, and no real downsides.

“You have to have a very good reason to say no to \$160,000,” Kessler said.

Kenyon LIGO Lab helps detect rare neutron star collision

HAILEY NAPIER
STAFF WRITER

On April 25, 2019, scientists at Kenyon working globally with the Laser-Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) Scientific Collaboration (LSC) detected gravitational waves at an observatory in Livingston, Louisiana, signalling a ripple in spacetime caused by the collision of two neutron stars in another galaxy.

This isn't the only time a neutron star collision has been detected from Earth. The first observed collision took place in 2017.

"It was a very loud signal," commented Les Wade, a physics professor who co-runs the LIGO Lab at Kenyon with his wife Madeline Wade. "What was really special about [the 2017 collision] was that we saw it with the gravitational waves and then we were able to find the collision with telescopes from all other frequencies of light."

The collision in 2019, which researchers refer to as GW190425, was not quite as theatrical—it lacked the flash across the electromagnetic spectrum that made the 2017 collision so exciting. GW190425 objects were also notably different because of their mass.

"Neutron stars can only be supported up to a maximum mass," Wade said. "One of

the neutron stars was pushing that maximum mass boundary, which is pretty interesting." According to a paper published by the LSC in January 2020, neutron stars are normally about 1.5 times the mass of the sun. In GW190425, however, the heavier of the two stars may have been up to 2.52 solar masses, making this potentially the heaviest binary neutron star collision ever observed.

A neutron star is the very dense afterlife stage following the death of a star before it could potentially become a black hole. "Imagine taking the entire sun and all of its mass, and smashing it down into the size of a city," Kenyon student Joe Lucaccioni '21, who contributed analysis that was featured in the recent LSC paper about the 2019 collision, said. Wade further explained that the tremendous pressure involved in "smashing" such a massive object into a small space means that "you have these nuclear reactions where protons and electrons are essentially morphing together into neutrons," which hold the star together with a force called neutron degeneracy pressure until it collapses into a black hole with even greater mass than the neutron star itself.

Observing neutron star collisions like GW190425 will help physicists under-

stand the formation of black holes, which aren't uncommon, but haven't previously been observed due to low instrument sensitivity. "The total mass involved was high enough that we believe [the heavier star in the 2019 collision] collapsed directly into a black hole," Lucaccioni said. "Currently, we do not know how much mass a neutron star can have before it collapses into a black hole, so this mass limit is something we are interested in." Data and theoretical predictions show that neutron stars can be supported up to a maximum mass — around the 2 solar mass range. There is then a gap between the highest mass a neutron star can have and the lowest mass of a black hole. The heavier of the two neutron stars in the GW190425 collision inhabits this gap, meaning it could reshape physicists' ideas of neutron star mass and the boundary between neutron stars and black holes.

The 2019 collision is far from the end of research for the Wades, Lucaccioni and the rest of the scientists collaborating globally on the LIGO project. Lucaccioni says they are all striving to

“It was a very loud signal. What was really special about [the 2017 collision] was that we saw it with the gravitational waves and then we were able to find the collision with telescopes from all other frequencies of light.”

Les Wade, physics professor

“probe the workings of the universe through a new means other than light.” Researchers more broadly in LIGO are focusing on gravitational waves as an alternative to light-based observation.

“Gravitational waves are funky,” Wade said. “They’re stretches or compressions in spacetime and they manifest themselves in the change in distances between two objects.” Spacetime is part of the theory of general relativity proposed by Albert Einstein which links space and time to create a fabric of reality. Objects with large mass warp this fabric (the higher the mass, the larger the dent), and when they move, ripples are created. Spacetime is often thought of as a blanket held off the

ground between two people, and a neutron star or other massive object as a ball rolling on the blanket, creating ripples as it moves.

Gravitational waves emitted leading up to a collision can be used to understand the internal workings of neutron stars using a mathematical relationship called the neutron star equation of state, which is central to Wade’s work. “We don’t know that much about it yet—we’re trying to constrain it through observation. [The 2017 collision] was the first gravitational wave constraint,” Wade commented. “We were able to rule out some more exotic theoretical predictions based on that measurement.”

By constraining the equation with observations, Wade and fellow researchers, including Kenyon students, are able to reduce down theoretical values until the equation accurately models the real world, enabling them to more precisely understand the internal activity of neutron stars.

In the coming years, the LIGO collaboration will work towards longer observation runs while increasing the sensitivity of their instruments. Wade believes that these steps will even allow researchers to detect gravitational waves from isolated neutron stars or supernovas.

CLASS CLASH

COMPILED BY JACKSON WALD



Senior Class Total:
19



Junior Class Total:
24



Sophomore Class Total:
13



First -Year Class Total:
15

	Answer	Devon Nothard '20	Cooper Murray '21	Ellie Klee '22	Sam Hafetz '23
Outside of Ohio, which state did the majority of the Kenyon class of 2019 hail from?	California	California	California	New York	New York
What street in Gambier shares a name with a New York City borough?	Brooklyn Street	Brooklyn Street	Queens	College Park Street	Brooklyn
Which building on campus used to be a second dining hall alongside Peirce Dining Hall?	Gund Commons	The Ganter	Gund Commons	The KAC	Ascension
Which two teams are playing in the Super Bowl on Feb. 3?	San Francisco 49ers and Kansas City Chiefs	South Africa and England	Chiefs and 49ers	Dolphins and Patriots	49ers/Chiefs
Weekly Scores		2	3	0	2

STUDENT BARBERS: A NEW APPROACH

TOMMY JOHNSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANNMARIE MORRISON
SOCIAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

Hair: It's a part of everyday life for many people. It's there. It grows. Occasionally, it needs to be cut.

Gambier is a small town filled with a large number of college students. In other words, Gambier contains very busy young adults who lack the financial means that come from full-time jobs, unless their living is generously stipended by a parent. Time and money constraints, coupled with the fact that only one full-time, professional barber operates a shop within the village limits, means that the accessibility to haircuts can pose as a problem for everyday college life. Where do you go? How do you afford it? How can you know that the haircut you get here will be as good as the one you get back home? Enter campus barbers.

Teddy Hannah-Drullard '20 and Ben Stillions '22 are two such campus barbers, well-versed in haircuts and styles ranging from buzzes, fades, deep conditions and bleaching.

For both Hannah-Drullard and Stillions, cutting hair started out of necessity.

Hannah-Drullard started cutting their own hair after the senior student they relied on for haircuts graduated in 2017.

"It's difficult to arrange transportation for haircuts," Hannah-Drullard said, "and rare to find someone who knows how to cut black hair." Hannah-Drullard, with the help of WikiHow and YouTube videos, is self-taught. What began as a solution for an individual need soon evolved into a service that Hannah-Drullard now provides to a growing base of clientele, having up to 10 appointments in a given week.

Like Hannah-Drullard, Stillions' barbering skills arose from a practical beginning.

"I cut a couple of people's hair in high school because they wanted haircuts and they didn't want to spend the money for an actual barber," he said.

Both have since developed regular clientele on campus, in part because their business practices embody the practical concerns that brought them into the craft in the first place.

Neither Stillions nor Hannah-Drullard have an established price for their haircuts. Originally, Hannah-Drullard gave them for free, since they felt odd about charging people for a hobby of theirs. Over time, they came to use a bartering system, where clients choose how to repay Hannah-Drullard for their services.

"My favorite payments so far have been a homemade Chinese dinner, a gorgeous old album full of photos of Mississippi juke joints by Birney Imes and a ripe mango," Hannah-Drullard said. "Money is also acceptable, though not as exciting. I won't accept more than \$15."

Stillions likewise is not deeply concerned with money. He mentioned that as he establishes a relationship with a client, he hopes to be paid for his services, but also believes that a haircut on campus should fall within the \$5 to \$15 range.

"Right now, I'm giving free first haircuts to anyone who is interested in that," Stillions said.

Both of these campus barbers bring a strong sense of enthusiasm to their craft. When Hannah-Drullard meets a new potential client, they always say yes. Similarly, Stillions has staked out a status in the campus barber market as a connoisseur of creative cuts.

"I've been contracted multiple times to do special-case haircuts. Mullets, for example. Another time [that same person] asked me to give them a rat-tail haircut like Ana-

kin from Star Wars," Stillions said. He said that he simply enjoys giving people what they want.

Hannah-Drullard echoed this sentiment. "The way you look has a profound effect on your sense of ownership over your body," they said. "For me, maintaining a short haircut is as much about looking fresh as it was about settling into my gender identity and self-expression."

For Hannah-Drullard, the trust placed in a barber's hands makes a haircut an intimate affair. Sometimes mid-cut conversations get very deep, they said, and there is something special in being able to provide people with comfort.

"Kenyon can be a really lonely place sometimes, and the grind can wear you down, so this time to just sit and reflect together is invaluable. Plus you look great afterwards. There are literally no downsides," Hannah-Drullard said.

Stillions says that his first few haircuts "started off a little rocky," but he echoed the desire to help others look and feel good.

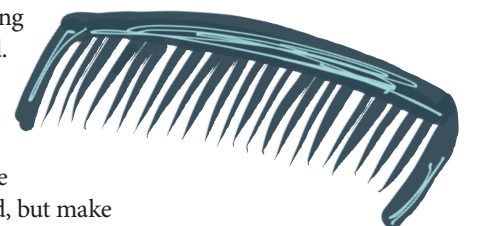
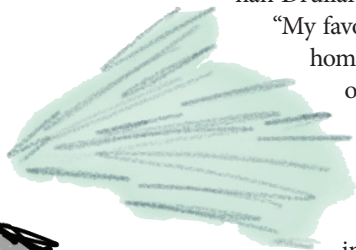
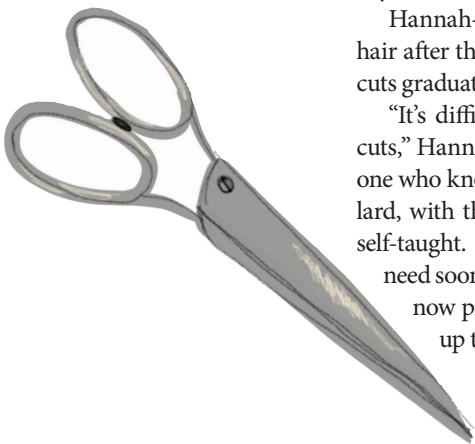
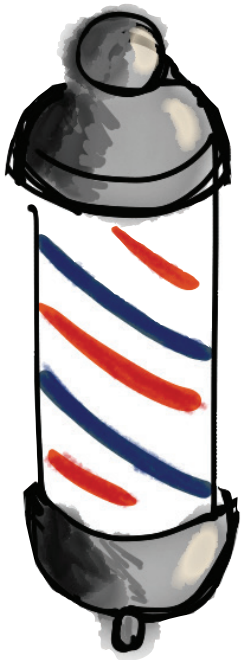
"Haircutting to me is more than just slicing a couple follicles off the top of someone's head. It's establishing a relationship with that person. It's that person trusting you with not only their hair, but the perception that is put upon them by all their classmates. They're trusting me to not only make them look good, but make them look fabulous and I have largely succeeded in that path," he said. "I really just want to make people hot."

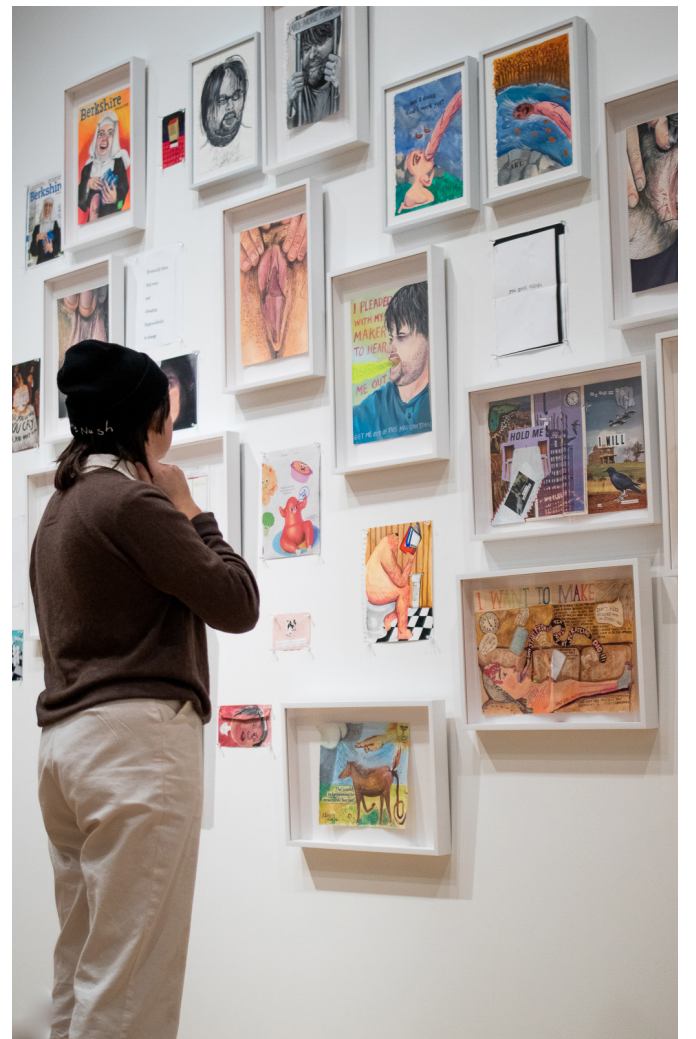
SO... A
MANGO...

WORK
WITH
ME
HERE.



ALEX GILKEY | CARTOONIST





LEFT Photographer Gerardo Velasquez gives speech to introduce new works. RIGHT Kenyon student admires a few of the new pieces. | ANNMARIE MORRISON

Gund Gallery celebrates queer artists in new exhibitions

PAIGE KELLER
STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, Jan. 16, the Kenyon community gathered inside Gund Gallery to celebrate the opening of two new exhibitions: *Axis Mundo*, a celebration of queer artists in Chicano L.A. from the late 1960s to early 1990s, and *Alumnae: 50 Years*, which featured the works of Ashley Yang-Thompson '15 and Ally Schmalig '14.

Axis Mundo follows the stories of a community that has been largely ignored in the art world, queer Chicano artists in L.A. The exhibit shows the evolution of the artists' styles throughout the late 20th century while celebrating their personal and cultural identities. The exhibit is structured chronologically to demonstrate how these artists followed artistic trends throughout the decades, but put per-

sonal twists on it at the same time. The exhibit paid particular notice to Mundo Meza, a very active member of the L.A. LGBTQ+ rights movement who died of AIDS in 1985. The works on display show how Meza's style transitioned from the surrealist trends of the 1960s to the rising punk aesthetic of the 1980s. The exhibit showcases a large array of mediums, ranging from oil paintings and photography to self-published magazines and fashion.

The exhibit celebrates and commemorates a very expressive art community and helps to inform the public of individuals who are often overlooked because of their sexual and racial identities. *Axis Mundo* not only helps the viewer learn more about the artistic trends of the time period, but also makes them aware of a passionate group of activists seeking acceptance

for their identities.

The second exhibit that opened on Thursday was *Alumnae: 50 Years*, which featured alumnae artists Ashley Yang-Thompson '15 and Ally Schmalig '14. Yang-Thompson—or Miss Expanding Universe, as she likes to be credited—is most notable for her collection of zines, a self-published mini magazine, titled *Worm House*. A main idea that unifies her zine issues is that, to heal the world, one first has to heal themselves. Throughout her zines she explores gender and sexual identities, asking her readers to embrace themselves completely while also asking them to examine their relationship with pop culture.

This relationship can also be seen in the works of the second artist: Schmalig, who photographed a series of candid portraits where their

subjects were allowed complete freedom of how they expressed themselves in the photographs, creating an “annihilation of gender.” This destruction of gender stereotypes was further emphasized by the high saturation and dramatic lighting of the works, which made them reminiscent of fashion shoots and runway aesthetics, creating a parallel between these true expressions of self and what can be interpreted as a jaded and critical industry.

The ideas presented in both artists' works fit into the overall theme of the *Alumnae* exhibit, which is how bodies interact with their environment, by challenging the viewer to act more individualistic and learn to celebrate their identity to a fuller extent, interacting with their surroundings in a more fulfilling way.

Music ensemble 9 Horses makes Kenyon debut at Brandi

GRACE KORTHIUS
STAFF WRITER

On Friday night, Brandi Recital Hall resounded with the twang of electric and acoustic mandolins, violin and upright bass of ensemble. 9 Horses is an improvisational chamber ensemble that boldly mixes genres and styles to create a transformative musical experience.

9 Horses' performance was personal and intimate. The trio of musicians paused between songs several times to allow opportunities for questions and comments from the audience. The band members also met with Kenyon music

students prior to the performance to organize a poetry reading set to the backdrop of their music. Students dispersed throughout the audience stood up consecutively to read lines from a poem written by Maggie Smith while the band members improvised melodies to carry the poetry.

Joe Brent, previously a member of Regina Spektor's live band, is the primary composer and mandolinist for 9 Horses. Brent also plays violin, which is how he came into contact with Sara Caswell, the violinist for 9 Horses and a Grammy nominee. Originally a duo, Brent and

Caswell founded 9 Horses in 2012 before adding Andrew Ryan, the upright bassist, to the band in 2013.

Elegantly fusing classical elements with folk, songs from the band ranged from upbeat, folk-centric tunes with mandolin solos to melancholy, haunting melodies carried by Caswell's violin. Brent frequently adopted animated facial expressions as he played, while Ryan and Caswell turned to share a smile several times over the course of the performance. It was evident that the band members were not only passionate about their music,

but also genuinely enjoy one another's company.

Throughout the performance, the musicians emphasized the independent experiences that they hoped their music would inspire. Although the individual songs that were performed had unique and often specific titles that alluded to their inspirations—such as “listening to the Elliott Smith discography in reverse order”—Caswell said that she believes the music changes every time it is performed depending not only on the different thoughts and feelings of the musicians but also those of the listeners. In that way, ev-

ery performance becomes a unique experience.

Currently, 9 Horses travels all across the world, performing and holding workshops. They have released an album called *Perfectest Herald* (2015) and an EP with four songs titled *Blood From A Stone* (2019). They hope to release a new EP sometime this year.

The originality and thoughtful audience interaction displayed by 9 Horses on Friday night was candid and inspiring, an engaging and touching way for students to conclude their first week of the Spring 2020 semester at Kenyon.



LEFT Anna Deryk '20 in the midst of her 12 minute violin solo. RIGHT Max Lazarus '20 playing "Donna Lee" on the saxophone | SARA HALEBLIAN

Students prove their diligence in music in biannual recital

SOFIA WILSON
STAFF WRITER

Kenyon's Biannual Angela Waite Recital this past Saturday in Brandi Recital Hall exemplified Kenyon students' passion for music. Eight students, ranging from first years to seniors, performed one to two pieces on an instrument they have been studying. Audience members were blown away with the performers' attention to detail, as well as their persistent confidence and rhythm on stage.

Jose Niño '23 described the process of getting chosen to perform at the recital. Unless it is a student's first time taking private lessons, they are required to perform in front of a

jury as part of their final grade. The eight students selected for the performance on Saturday had all given exceptional performances in December in front of a jury.

For most of the performers, music is an important part of their lives. Niño began playing the trombone in fifth grade, and chose to continue his craft at Kenyon. Niño walked on stage poised, trombone in hand, with his accompanying pianist, Rebecca Abbott. There were two movements in Niño's piece, "Allegro, an Andante." In "Allegro," the trombone had a deep, almost dark tone to it. In "Andante," the trombone took on a more lively, faster-paced rhythm.

The versatility in Niño's two per-

formances is also apparent in his everyday music life. For one, Niño is part of the Symphonic Jazz band, and he takes private trombone lessons. He also "[has] a little jazz combo with some first years ... we kind of get together and we play together and stuff," Niño said. Music exploration clearly doesn't stop in the classroom. "I have also learned Baritone and a little bit of trumpet," he said. "I have started to get into piano." Devotion to the art and education of music is apparent among all the performers.

The recital began with Eli Hilton '23 playing the piano slowly and melodically, before increasingly getting faster and more powerful. The recital kept audience members

on their toes, because each performance had a completely different sound. The audience was stunned by Anna Deryck's '20 12-minute violin solo. The concert came to a close with Max Lazarus' '20 saxophone piece, "Donna Lee." He started the piece tapping his foot to the beat, and then dove into the smooth sound of the saxophone.

The students' perseverance and enthusiasm helped create this harmonious performance, along with the help of their instructors and professors. The music community at Kenyon has continued to grow and expand, and with it, students have learned more about both music and themselves.

P. F. Kluge delivers a recitation of new book on journalism

SYDNEY FALLON
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, Jan. 15, at the Kenyon College Bookstore, a celebration was held for P.F. Kluge's '64 new book "Keepers: Home and Away," where Kluge read aloud and discussed several essays from the new book before answering questions from the audience. For many years, Kluge was a notable journalist, having worked for both the *Wall Street Journal* and *Time magazine*. He is also the author of several acclaimed novels, including "Eddie and the Cruisers," which was made into a film of the same name. Kluge also co-wrote

the *Life Magazine* article "The Boys in the Bank," which inspired the Academy Award-winning crime drama *Dog Day Afternoon*.

Kluge's experience as a journalist informed much of the book's content. "Keepers: Home and Away" is a collection of nonfiction essays centered around the ideas of travel and location, which connects to the exploration necessary for journalism as a profession. Kluge said that his memorable travels are "not over until they are written about," speaking to the more personal aspects of his adventures.

One of Kluge's essays, "My Private Germany," discussed an area in Austria that he and his wife visit every year, and

the joy he finds in returning to such a familiar place. The essay also focuses on the stage of life where one can appreciate familiarity. Kluge uses the essay to explore how his parents felt when they were his age, and how growing into that stage made him feel closer to them. "My Private Germany" continues to explore Kluge's complicated relationship with his family, as the essay discussed his discovery as a child that he had relatives who had fought for Nazi Germany in World War II. The essay discusses how the experience "complicated [his] view of good and evil," but also developed Kluge's interest in history and learning about each side of historical events.

Following his career in journalism, Kluge returned to Gambier, working at Kenyon as a creative writing teacher and writer-in-residence. Kluge noted Ransom Riggs '01 and John Green '00 as some of the notable students he taught during his time as an instructor at Kenyon, and how he marveled at the successes they had found. The reading was attended mainly by the writer's friends and former colleagues.

"I was struck by the number of retired faculty members and Kenyon alums in the audience—it was a testimony to the community that Fred [Kluge '64] and Pamela [Hollie] have helped to build here over the years," noted Professor of English Adele David-

son '75, a long-time colleague and friend of Kluge. In an essay inspired by Kluge's time in Gambier, he wrote of the necessity of community in such a small area where word travels fast, how "extreme states, love and outright hate, are dangerous here."

"Kluge manages to be simultaneously cynical, engaging and idealistic," Davidson said of the essay. "As was true, I believe, of his views about Kenyon and Gambier, where there is a genuine affection that comes through despite an awareness of the College's shortcomings and occasional failure to be as good as it could be. What institution can ever be as good as its potential?"

STAFF EDITORIAL

Kenyon students should be a fixture on Village Council

In this issue, we covered a monumental occasion in the history of the College and its relationship with the Village of Gambier. Despite being founded by Philander Chase at the same time as the founding of Kenyon, Gambier has never had a current student elected to the Village Council until Ben Nutter '21 took office on Jan. 13. This is a task that we are certain Councilmember Nutter will not take lightly, as he is the first success story in a long line of Kenyon students seeking membership on the Village Council.

However, while Nutter may be qualified, it took many fortunate coincidences for a student to finally break through the barriers of serving on Village Council. Because Kessler's mayorship triggered a special election, Nutter did not have to collect the required 50 signatures to appear on the ballot, a surprisingly difficult task that prevented Eva Warren's '19 name from appearing on the 2017 ballot despite her intention to serve on the Council. Nutter not only ran unopposed, but he will also serve an abbreviated term, as he assumes the remainder of the current Mayor Leeman Kessler's '04 four-year term that began in 2017. Due to this coincidence, Councilmember Nutter, a current junior, will only have six months left on his term after his graduation.

However, most elections do not have that feature. In a normal election, any potential student is running for a four-year term. To serve even a majority of that term while living in Gambier as a student, one must be a sophomore standing at the time of the election, requiring them to start the petitioning process to get on the ballot as a second-semester first year. This has the potential to eliminate many qualified and willing students who do not feel it appropriate to serve that brief of their assigned term.

That is why the *Collegian* believes that new Mayor Kessler, Councilmember Nutter and the rest of the Council should consider creating a new non-voting position on the Village Council to be held by a Kenyon student, serving a two-year term, to institutionalize the voices of the student body onto the Village Council.

According to the most recent U.S. Census estimates, the Village has a population of approximately 2,500 people. In that same data, they estimate that around 1,750 of those residents are between the ages of 18-24. Kenyon students represent a sizeable chunk of the Gambier population. Our voice deserves to be incorporated into Village politics.

While there are certainly a fair number of issues that relate primarily to the permanent, tax-paying residents of Gambier, there are also countless amount of issues that relate more directly to the majority of Kenyon students. For example, one of Nutter's priorities is taking a deeper look at the Village's relationship with the Knox County Sheriff's Office, in response to reports of potentially racially motivated harassment against Kenyon students. There are issues affecting the day-to-day lives of Kenyon students that are often debated on without any official input from the students themselves. For these reasons, the *Collegian* believes that Village Council should ensure that Nutter's legacy of representing students on Village Council does not end with his graduation in 17 months.

The staff editorial is written weekly by editors-in-chief Becca Foley '20 and Adam Schwager '20, and executive director Tommy Johnson '20. You can contact them at foley1@kenyon.edu, schwager1@kenyon.edu and johnson1@kenyon.edu, respectively.

When the enemy of my enemy is not my friend: Anti-Trump doesn't mean pro-Iran

MILO LEVINE
OPINIONS EDITOR

President Trump's recent order to assassinate Iranian Major General Qasem Soleimani has drawn immense backlash from the international community and American citizens alike, as many fear Trump's actions will lead to a broader conflict and will only serve to escalate violence in the Middle East.

The consensus among scholars, such as Vali Nasr of the *New York Times*, is that Trump made a strategic error in choosing to assassinate Soleimani. Many domestic lawmakers have also criticized this move, and while I agree that Trump was careless in his decision to use violent force in an already volatile situation, I am concerned by the way the conflict is being characterized, especially on social media. Many Americans have aligned themselves with the Iranian government, over an ostensibly shared hatred of Trump. Thus is the polarizing nature of Trump, that his actions automatically trigger an extreme opposition—often justified, but not always. It is important that people recognize that the Iranian government is not our friend, and that it is naive to as-

sume otherwise.

One popular clip that circulated on social media is of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei explaining why the chanting of "death to America" is more agreeable than it seems at face value. Khamenei explains that such chants heard throughout Iran are merely a call for the end of the Trump presidency, as opposed to a call for violence against American citizens. The notion that Khamenei is merely a liberal activist riding the Blue Wave is not only ridiculous, but also incredibly dangerous. This video was shared by a number of Kenyon students on various social media platforms, which suggests that misinformation on the Iranian government has even permeated the sphere of the college educated.

Khamenei, whose title also includes Supreme Leader of Iran, is an authoritarian dictator with reprehensible views to those who believe in a liberal democratic society. Khamenei, and by extension the Iranian government, is appallingly anti-Semitic. In the past, Khamenei has promoted Holocaust denial, has called for the destruction of Israel and its inhabitants, and has compared Jews to animals.

Additionally, Iran is an Islamic re-

ligious state that persecutes minority faiths and forces rigorous adherence to Muslim orthodoxy on the masses. Inherent to such a strict religious state is a pandemic of misogyny that often amounts to violence. The *New York Times* reported that in November of 2019 the Iranian government murdered up to 450 political dissidents in response to civilian protests against the regime's oppressive rule. The Iranian government sponsors terrorist organizations that are directly responsible for the deaths of American troops as well as civilians in other countries.

I understand the desire to diametrically oppose everything Trump says and does, and I agree with certain diplomacy experts who suggest his actions are haphazard and potentially dangerous. But Iran is not an ally—nor should it be, given their current state of government. The actions of the Iranian government are un-American, undemocratic and fly in the face of liberalism and egalitarianism. As a nation we need to recognize that the Iranian government is the problem, even if we disagree on the solution.

Milo Levine '23 is an undeclared major from Mill Valley, Calif. You can contact him at levine1@kenyon.edu.



Forgive them, they went abroad.

ALEX GILKEY

The opinions page is a space for members of the community to discuss issues relevant to the campus and the world at large. The opinions expressed on this page belong only to the writers. Columns and letters to the editors do not reflect the opinions of the *Collegian* staff. All members of the community are welcome to express opinions through a letter to the editor.

The *Kenyon Collegian* reserves the right to edit all letters submitted for length and clarity. The *Collegian* cannot accept anonymous or pseudonymous letters. Letters must be signed by individuals, not organizations, and must be 200 words or fewer. Letters must also be received no later than the Tuesday prior to publication. The *Kenyon Collegian* prints as many letters as possible each week subject to space, interest and appropriateness. Members of the editorial board reserve the right to reject any submission. The views expressed in the paper do not necessarily reflect the views of Kenyon College.

Kenyon students should have service industry experience

SALVATORE MACCHIONE
OPINIONS ASSISTANT

There are few things in this world that are less enjoyable than low-paying service industry jobs. There are far too many rambunctious customers, spilled milkshakes and angry hatchback-driving mothers asking to see the manager over an incorrect french fry order.

Despite this, I find that having some experience in the service industry is extremely beneficial in developing employable skills and interpersonal problem-solving mechanisms, and I highly recommend it for all Kenyon students.

I realize, however, that the average Kenyon student has minimal financial obligation to obtain a low-paying job. The median income of Kenyon students' families is an astronomical \$213,500, the 14th highest in the nation. While

college is undeniably a financial burden, families earning this much or more have less of a problem affording college, as that amount of money, along with Kenyon's guarantee of providing 100 percent of demonstrated need-based aid, is just enough for one or two undergraduate tenures. But, despite a predominant lack of financial need, Kenyon students can still benefit from improved social skills and worldly insights that come as a result of a service industry job.

I worked two consecutive summers earning minimum wage as a front-of-house employee at a take-out restaurant on the south side of Chicago. In my six or so cumulative months of taking orders, handing out food, wiping down tables and serving Italian ice, I often found myself exhausted and annoyed. Amidst my occasional frustrations, it was imperative to be courteous, no matter my mood. It

was this mandatory etiquette that, while straining at times, enabled me to holistically be a better, more sociable individual, regardless of circumstance.

Furthermore, there are few things that can better prepare you for the pace and general impatience of the world than dealing with other people in a service industry setting. Many college students don't have the ample interpersonal experience under their belts to adequately handle the many real-world conflicts and scenarios that result from America's general hustle and bustle. No amount of time spent grinding out calculus problems can prepare you for being polite when others simply are not, and certainly no amount of Karl Marx prepares you for verbally placating an irate individual.

It is important to note that not all academic activities are inapplicable to the real world. Many

extracurriculars, specifically, have immediate applications. For instance, the *Collegian* sharpens both time management and writing skills, Student Council teaches conflict-resolution abilities and Social Board emphasizes planning and budgeting tactics. Outside of an academic environment, however, people are often much less cooperative, accommodating, and patient. It is only through working in higher-stress, lower-paying service industry environments does one learn to handle these interpersonal roadblocks while simultaneously appreciating the work of others, no matter how seemingly trivial.

Until I worked behind a register, I did not recognize that service industry workers are constantly under immense pressure to be accurate yet hasty, firm yet polite, flexible yet resilient. I did not recognize that tips, no matter how small,

can drastically help somebody's financial stability. I did not recognize how a simple compliment can make the end of shift all the more bearable. These realizations are all valuable life lessons that I may not have learned had I not worked in a service industry setting.

If you are a Kenyon student, you may never have to work in the service industry, and that's fine. However, the new perspectives, experiences, and appreciation for the little things in life, things that would otherwise be taken for granted, make working a low-paying job worthwhile. Am I saying that working for service or retail is necessary to obtain a better understanding of the world? No. But for a college student with only 18 years of life experience, it certainly helps.

Salvatore Macchione '23 is an undeclared major from Chicago, Ill. You can contact him at macchione1@kenyon.edu.

CROSSWORD

Cameron Austin
Crossword Editor

- Across**
1. Forestal fabrics
6. "Let me have ___ at it"
9. *Collegian* software provider
14. Toward the nautical left
15. Mr. I Am
16. Queen of canned pumpkin
17. Alliterative (and ampersanded) vices
20. Curves
21. Tibetan monk
22. Lacking pigment
25. Lemonade artist, for short
26. Suffix for cash or staple
30. Hammer balls
31. ~, to a logicist
32. Practice for pianist
33. Christmassy contraction
34. Melody
35. Czar, for the Germans
36. From the Ides to St. Patrick's Day
40. Breeds bedlam
42. Bedroom pop, e.g.
43. To be human
46. Transplant
47. Toddler
48. "The most beautiful sound I ever heard ..."
50. Mister, in Mainz
51. Avatar in popular PC game series
52. Pastor
54. Campus, in relation to the Hill
55. Hot-ish
56. "O Holy Night," for example
63. Jimmy Neutron's hyperactive pal
64. Paddle
65. To develop
66. Detective Frank or Joe
67. Telepathy, perhaps
68. \$3.30 purchase at Wiggin Street Coffee
- Down**
1. Location for Yankee Doodle's feather
2. Interest no.
3. "Me?"
4. To make a father?
5. Radio host Howard and family
6. Pharaonic snakes
7. Long-nosed fish
8. Long line on Saturday or Sunday
9. Ohio Creek with State Park
10. Pedagogical
11. ___-Wan Kenobi
12. UK national broadcaster
13. To scrutinize
18. Tiffany suffix
19. Corrigan of the Economics Department
22. Fit
23. Hawaiian accessory
24. To sling mud, perhaps
25. Ennui
27. Fans of commentator Limbaugh, maybe?
28. Exaltatory poem
29. "___ my last email..."
31. Nada
32. Musical taste
34. Youtube video preludes
35. Mary of the makeup industry
37. Light indicative of body heat
38. Eagle egg-softener
39. Mass. school with engineer mascot
40. "Phooey!"
41. Prefix in prefix
44. Brazilian "river" city
45. Hit the treadmill
47. To step sneakily
48. Shell with shoes on
49. 1588 Spanish Navy
51. Pls help
52. "Je ne parle ___ français"
54. ___ URL.com
55. To distort
56. Celebrated trainer Ketchum
57. Duplicated syllable in animated dance
58. She, subjectively
59. "Live ___," at Taco Bell, that is
60. Writer's block
61. 10th month, abbreviated
62. Levi's competitor

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14						15				16				
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63						64				65				
66						67				68				

12/12 SOLUTIONS

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14	P	R	E	L	A	T	E		15	C	O	A	R	S	E				
16	H	A	P	P	Y	H	A		17	N	U	K	K	A	!				
				18	A	S	S		19	M	E	L	E	E					
20	R	O	S	Y				23	A	S	A	P			24	N	U	B	
27	H	U	H		28	D	E	C		30	P	T	O	L	E	M	Y		
33	O	R	A	T	O	R	I	O		35				36	D	O	W	S	E
			37	W	E	I	R	D	F	38	39	R	I	D	A	Y			
40	P	A	N	E	L				42	F	I	R	E	D	O		43	44	R
45	T	I	E	D	Y	E	D		48	E	E	R			49	R	N	A	
50	A	L	E			51	V	E	52	A	L			53	S	K	E	W	
				54	E	V	E	N	T		56	A	S	P					
58	W	I	N	T	E	R	S	O	L	S	T	I	C	E		62	63		
64	E	L	E	C	T	S			65	L	A	T	E	R	A	N			
66	B	O	O	H	O	O			67	L	O	I	T	E	R	S			

Congrats to Kathleen Stedman '20, Alli Beard '20, Julia Muse '20, Srila Chadala-vada '20 and Kate Lemon '20 for being the first to submit a correct solution to last issue's puzzle!

Did you finish this crossword? Email a photo of your finished crossword to crossword@kenyoncollegian.com for the chance to get a shoutout!



The Ladies have gone 2-4 following the team's winter break. Paige Matijasich '20 (right) starred against Hiram, scoring 39 points. | SEJIN KIM/KENYON SID/NCAA

Matijasich's 39 points not enough in double overtime loss

SAM HAGA
STAFF WRITER

The Kenyon Ladies basketball team competed in six games following their winter break, losing to DePauw University, Denison University, Ohio Wesleyan University and Hiram College while securing victories against the College of Wooster and Allegheny College.

The Ladies squared off against DePauw on Dec. 31, falling 56-42. The Tigers put up an impressive 28 points in the second quarter while the Ladies scored only six points. Despite strong offensive in the third and fourth quarters, the Ladies were unable to overcome their first-half deficit. Sydney Kopp led the Tigers with 15 points, though Kenyon's Paige Matijasich '20 led all scorers with 19.

On Jan. 4, the Ladies traveled to Wooster to face the Fighting Scots. The Ladies got off to a fast start, taking an early 10-4 lead before the Scots started to roll. After giving up

the lead, the Ladies failed to find a way to slow down the Wooster offense, specifically Maria Janasko, who scored 20 points on the night.

However, after falling behind by 17 with 6:22 left in the third quarter, the Ladies went on a furious 22-7 run to cut the lead to 2 entering the fourth quarter. They then opened the final frame on a 10-0 run, taking a 58-50 lead, before Wooster stormed right back to make the score 58-57 with five minutes remaining. However, after three consecutive 3-pointers, the Ladies took a 10-point lead and never looked back en route to a 74-68 victory.

In their next matchup, Denison defeated Kenyon 61-48 on Jan. 8. This loss comes just after Kenyon's previous game in Granville on Dec. 11 in which the Ladies triumphed 57-47. Zyah Beal shone for Denison with 17 points, while Matijasich yet again finished with a game-high 18 points. In addition, Matijasich landed a game-high nine rebounds.

The Ladies bounced back nicely

after their loss, inching past Allegheny with a 74-73 win. The first half was closely contested, with Allegheny holding a slim one-point lead. Kenyon charged ahead in the third quarter, outscoring the Gators 28-19. Matijasich scored nine points in the quarter, with Madelyn Anderson '22 and Amanda Carroll '22 adding six each. The fourth quarter saw Allegheny briefly outscore Kenyon 21-14, but the Ladies held on for the victory. Ellie Schaub '21 led the Ladies with 16 points, followed by Matijasich and Grace Connery '22 with 13 each and Anderson with 11. Anderson made 50 percent of her 3-point field goals, while Matijasich totaled 11 rebounds. Schaub credited the win to "contributions from [the whole team]," noting specifically that "team stops on defense, some clutch free throws from [Matijasich]... [and] staying composed" guided the team to victory.

On Jan. 15, the Ladies fell to Ohio Wesleyan 72-64, despite a stellar effort from Matijasich, who put up

21 points. Carroll's 10 points and Schaub's eight also stood out for Kenyon; however, Battling Bishops Cierra Joiner's 25 points and Claire Sterling's 21 points led Ohio Wesleyan to the win. A commanding fourth quarter by Ohio Wesleyan saw them score 19 points to Kenyon's 14, putting away a game that was close throughout.

In their final game, the Ladies fell in excruciating fashion at Hiram College in what was undoubtedly one of the NCAC games of the year. The Ladies will return home disappointed, as they had numerous chances to seal the victory. In the final seconds of regulation, with the score 63-62 in Hiram's favor, Matijasich was fouled by Tashana Wright. She went to the foul line with a chance to win the game, but missed the second of two free throws, sending the game into overtime.

The extra frame followed the narrative of regulation: A Matijasich layup with 21 seconds left put the Ladies up by three, but Tashana Wright

responded with a game-tying three to force another overtime. The Terriers were led by the aforementioned star guard throughout the game, as she scored 34 points in 50 minutes of action.

In double overtime, Kiele Anderson '21 missed a layup which would have given her team the lead with under two seconds left. Instead, the Terriers secured the rebound, and converted two free throws to go ahead 81-78. A full-court shot by Kenyon was blocked, giving Hiram the victory.

Despite the loss, the purple and black were excellent from beyond the arc, shooting 12-of-25 (48 percent). Matijasich dominated in a career game: She scored 29 points, shooting 14-of-21 from the field and 6-for-9 on 3-point attempts. Ellie Schaub added 13 points, including a perfect 6-for-6 on free throws.

The Ladies will look to bounce back in their next game against DePauw University at home at 1:00 p.m.

Lords participate in Wooster Tri-Meet, dominate in relays

DAVID METZGER
STAFF WRITER

The Lords track and field team competed over the weekend at the Wooster Tri-Meet, located in the Scot Center at The College of Wooster. The team finished in third place, tallying 64 points, trailing both the hosting Fighting Scots and first-place Earlham College. Various individual victories helped garner the 64 total points accumulated by the team: Sean Lee '23 secured first place in the pole vault, reaching a height of 3.65 meters, while Ifeatu Menakaya '21 provided a victory in the men's shot put, posting an impressive 11.99-meter toss. Menakaya would go on to add a second-place finish in the weight throw with a final distance of 10.74 meters. Benjamin Weiner '23 was able to secure a third-place finish in the men's 200-meter dash. Weiner sprinted across the line with a time of 24.17, only a half-second after the

first-place finisher, Drake Pence.

The 3,000-meter race was Kenyon's most successful event, with the Lords taking first, second and third place. Dannie Lane '22 finished first with a time of 10:16.95, followed by Jason Montgomery '23 at 10:25.06 and Will Spohn '22 at 10:37.82.

The only other victory on the track was a team-based event. A distance medley relay team comprised of Tommy Johnson '20, Ben Stillions '22, John Burczak '23 and Vincent Lewis '20 finished with a clocked time of 11:15.27.

Kenyon's 4x400 relay team, consisting of Weiner, Aaron Meuser '22, Chuen Loy '21 and Calvin Agran '22 finished just short of first place. Earlham won the relay with a time of 3:37.07 while Kenyon's final runner came across at 3:43.83. The Lords will look to improve on their performance when they return to Wooster on Jan. 25, where they will compete in the Fighting Scots Invitational.



Dannie Lane '22 sprints ahead. | COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE ATHLETICS



Left: Carter Powell '20 jumps for a layup against Ohio Wesleyan. Right: Ugnius Zilinskas '21 shoots over the hands of two OWU defenders. |SEJIN KIM/KENYON SID/NCAA

After tough two-game stretch, Lords defeat resilient Terriers

SYDNEY SCHULMAN
STAFF WRITER

The three most recent games for the Kenyon men's basketball team demonstrated great persistence. Although the team was unable to prevail in their first two games, they finished their week with an impressive showing in a victory over Hiram College.

On Jan. 15, Kenyon faced Ohio Wesleyan University (OWU) at Tomsich Arena. The game started slow offensively, with the OWU Battling Bishops going 1-for-17 from the field during the first 11 minutes of play. During this time, the Lords scored 10 points to their opponent's two. At the nine-minute mark, the visitors began to gain momentum and hit three

consecutive 3-pointers. This closed the gap for OWU, as they trailed Kenyon by only one point (12-11).

The Bishops went on to tie the game at 16 with a layup a few plays later. The Lords responded again and after a 3-pointer from Carter Powell '20, the purple and black were up 22-16. Just before the end of the half, the visitors took back the lead and the teams retreated to the locker room with the score standing at 32-27. After falling behind by as many as 10, Elijah Davis '22 provided some momentum with eight minutes remaining, converting a three-point play to bring the Lords to within five points of OWU. This was the closest the Lords would get to victory, though, as the Bishops secured the victory, winning 62-51.

On Saturday, the Lords traveled to Indiana to take on Wabash College. The two teams were evenly matched early on, with seven lead changes within the first 13 minutes. Ryan O'Neil '20 and Davis were the highest scorers during the first half; both players contributed seven points, and Davis was able to give Kenyon a 24-22 lead with a layup. Kenyon secured this position with a little less than 8 minutes until halftime. However, Wabash began to show more offensive prowess, hitting eight of 12 shots on a 23-9 run. During the stretch, the Lords only made three of their nine attempts. Wabash's momentum continued into the second half, with Wabash building a 60-36 lead, while Kenyon only shot 5-for-21 from the field in the

second half. Ugnius Zilinskas '21 finished with a team-high 17 points, while Davis and O'Neil added 10 and nine points, respectively.

Despite the losses, Coach Daniel Priest was satisfied with his team's effort. "We played well in parts of both games last week but were not consistent enough to beat two very good teams. We are coming out of an incredibly challenging part of our schedule, so I think we have learned some things and improved individually and as a team," he said. "We have focused a considerable amount of time and practice to execute our offense and being able to score in the half-court and transition, and I think we are making strides."

In their final game of the week, the Lords defeated Hi-

ram College at Tomsich Arena. After falling behind in the first few minutes of play, the Lords surged ahead, claiming the lead and maintaining it for the remainder of the game. Zilinskas had another dominant performance, finishing with a team-high 17 points. Powell and Nick Lewis '23 added 14 and 12 points respectively. The Lords' defensive pressure was indisputably the deciding factor of the game. Kenyon was able to hold Hiram to 3-for-18 shooting from beyond the arc, a dismal 17 percent, as the Terriers launched from deep in an attempt to mount a comeback. The Lords will look to build on their win in their next matchup against DePauw University this Saturday at 3 p.m. at Tomsich Arena.

Ladies track and field heads to Wooster for first race in 2020

Kenyon 4x400 team secures victory in Tri-Meet, Mary Shawaker excels in 400-meter dash.

FRANCIS BYRNE
STAFF WRITER

The Ladies track and field team traveled to Wooster last Saturday to compete in the College of Wooster Tri-Meet. The team finished third out of the three competing schools, scoring 63 combined points.

The Ladies' first-year class put on a strong showing in the meet, winning the distance-medley relay race, as well as making up half of the winning 4x400 relay team. In the latter, Mary Shawaker '23, Denna Medrano '23, Caitlyn Haas '20 and Sierra Smith '22 collectively ran a time of 4:29.09 to secure a Kenyon victory.

Shawaker also had a strong day in solo competition, finishing first with a time of 1:09.19 in the 400-meter dash. This was faster than any other competing runner by over three seconds. In the distance medley, four Kenyon first years made up the win-

ning team: Anna Harnsberger, Eleanor Kallay, Olivia Vrba and Alice Riley teamed up to turn in a time of 13:32.12 in their victory.

The Ladies also had a strong showing in the 200-meter dash. Smith finished in fifth with a time of 29.46 seconds, and Haas followed closely behind in sixth in 30.01 seconds. Abigail McCarty finished in seventh, coming across in 30.09 seconds.

In the field events, Jaidyn Cook '22 secured another victory for the Ladies, placing first in the triple jump with a 30-9 ¼ effort. Another notable finisher was Duffy Lemire '21, who finished second in the high jump by leaping 4-11 ¾. Eras Yager '23 finished second in both the weight throw and shot put, throwing 27-9 ¼ and 33-6 ½ respectively.

Next for the Ladies is another meet at Wooster this Saturday, Jan. 25 at 12:00 p.m., the Fighting Scots Invitational.



A Kenyon runner pushes forward. | COURTESY OF KENYON COLLEGE ATHLETICS